



State of  
California



Department of  
Toxic Substances  
Control

# Public Involvement

FACT SHEET, October 2005

## Amended Caterpillar Cleanup Plan Available for Review

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is providing this fact sheet to inform the public of the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Remedial Action Plan Amendment (RAP Amendment) for the Former Caterpillar Site (Site). The site is located at 800 Davis Street, San Leandro, California. (See Site Map on page 3.)

The Caterpillar RAP Amendment has been prepared for the proposed cleanup of shallow groundwater that is impacted with volatile organic compounds (VOCs). We encourage you to review and comment on the Draft RAP Amendment which is available at the information repositories listed on page 4. If you have questions about this site, please contact Ms. Jayantha Randeni, DTSC Project Manager, at (510) 540-3806 or by e-mail at [jrandeni@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jrandeni@dtsc.ca.gov).

### This Fact Sheet Will Tell You:

- History and Background of the Site
- Previous Cleanup Activities
- DTSC's Cleanup Recommendation
- Proposed Activities
- California Environmental Quality Act – Notice of Exemption
- Next Steps

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

We encourage you to review and comment on the Draft RAP Amendment for the Caterpillar Site. We will consider and respond to all public comments before making a final decision on this site. The Public Comment period is Thursday, October 13 to Monday, November 14, 2005. Please send comments, postmarked by November 14, 2005 to:

Jayantha Randeni, Project Manager,  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710  
Or by e-mail at: [jrandeni@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jrandeni@dtsc.ca.gov)

The complete RAP Amendment report and other related project documents are available at the local information repositories listed on Page 4 of this fact sheet.

### PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting will be held to explain this project, answer questions and receive public comments.  
October 25, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.  
San Leandro Community Library  
300 Estudillo Avenue, San Leandro CA



## History and Background of the Site:

Caterpillar Inc. (Caterpillar) owned and operated a manufacturing facility from approximately 1910 to 1980. As a result of these past manufacturing operations, trichloroethene (TCE) was released and contaminated soil and groundwater at the site. The contaminated groundwater moved westward toward the San Francisco Bay beneath residential housing.

The plume of contaminated groundwater is approximately 1-mile long and ½ mile wide and extends from the former Caterpillar facility to the 880 freeway. The facility was demolished in 1984. Currently, an office building and a parking area are over the former facility. The plume underlies a large number of parcels occupied by single family residences, businesses and the San Leandro Creek.

## Previous Cleanup Activities:

Investigations and cleanup activities have been conducted at the site since 1987. TCE and its breakdown products have been detected in shallow groundwater. In 1987, 16,000 cubic yards of petroleum hydrocarbon and VOC contaminated soil was removed from the site.

In 1994, DTSC approved a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the contaminated shallow groundwater. Groundwater extraction and treatment using granular activated carbon was approved for the cleanup. Caterpillar operated and maintained three groundwater extraction and treatment systems (Systems 1, 2 and 3) until 1999. DTSC approved the shut down of the Systems 1 and 3 in 1999 because the Systems have achieved the purpose of removing VOCs.

System 2 continues to operate, but the extraction rate has decreased dramatically since 2000 due to clogging of the sand pack around the extraction wells with silt. TCE concentrations have decreased from 1100 parts per million 1989, 100 parts per million in 2000 and 83 parts per million in 2005. The groundwater extraction and treatment system has not effectively reduced TCE concentrations since 2000. This is why a Draft RAP Amendment is being proposed with new alternatives to cleanup the groundwater.

## What is a Draft RAP Amendment?

Once a cleanup plan is approved and cleanup begins, DTSC monitors the effectiveness of the cleanup activities. If DTSC determines the cleanup is no longer effective, an amendment is drafted to the original cleanup plan called a Draft RAP Amendment. The draft RAP Amendment presents the cleanup alternatives considered and recommends the most feasible alternative for cleanup. The community is provided an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft RAP amendment during a 30-day public comment period and at the public meeting prior to a final decision.

## DTSC's Cleanup Recommendations:

DTSC is proposing the following cleanup for the Caterpillar Site:

- demolition of all three groundwater extraction and treatment systems
- injection of hydrogen release compound (HRC™) with bio-dechlor inoculum™ (BDI) bacteria, a manufactured food-grade substance
- monitored natural attenuation

This is the most protective of human health and the environment, accelerates the breakdown of VOCs in groundwater, is cost effective and can be readily implemented.

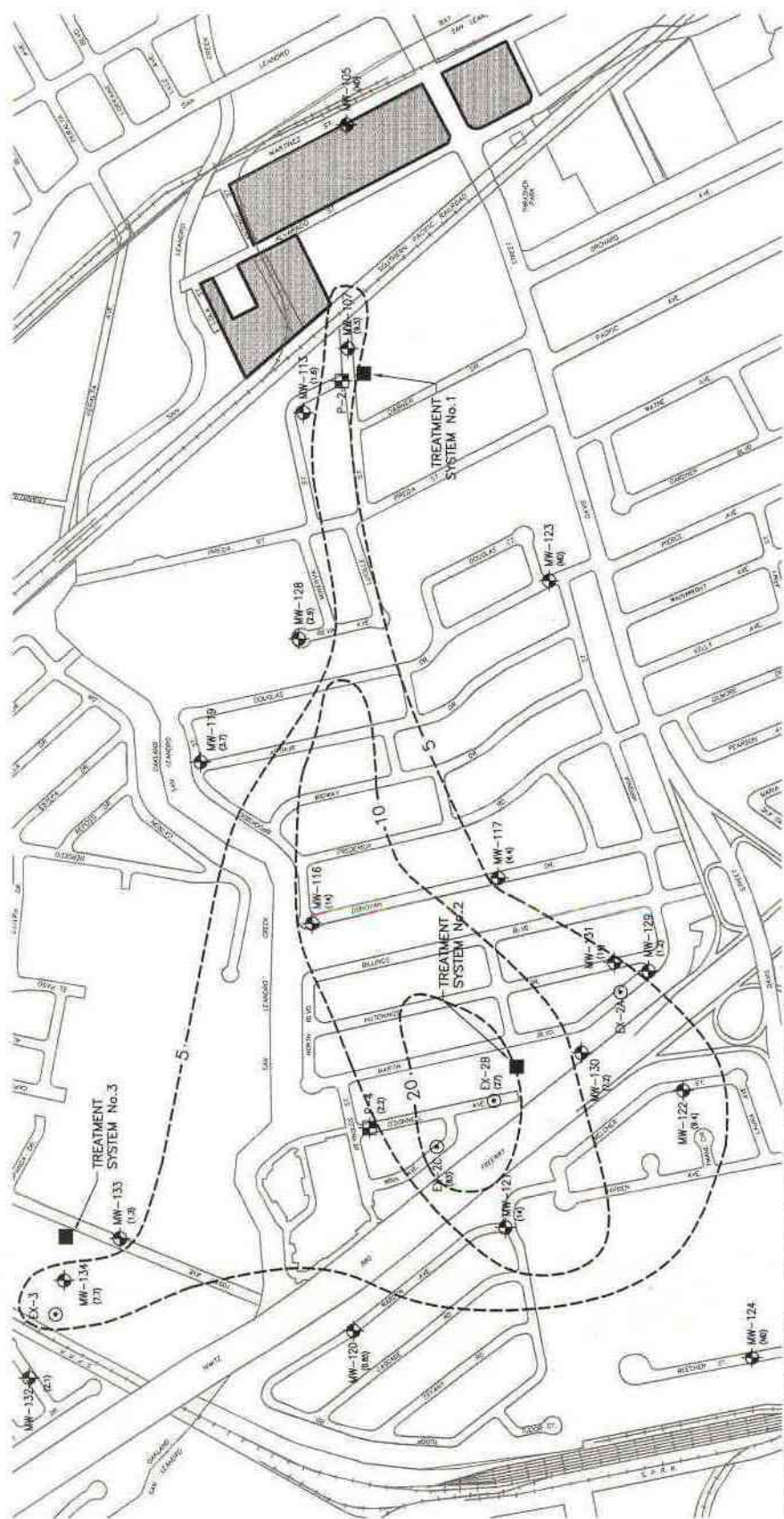
HRC is food grade substance that stimulates the growth of bacteria that destroy VOCs. BDI bacteria are naturally occurring bacteria that destroy VOCs. These bacteria will die off once VOC concentrations decrease and their VOC food is depleted.

If the groundwater monitoring data indicates that VOCs are not completely breaking down, an alternate plan using an effective in-situ treatment technology will be implemented.






## Proposed Activities:

Following activities are proposed:

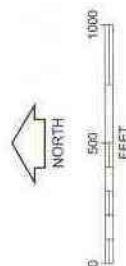
- During demolition of Systems 1, 2 and 3, the contractor will break up and haul off site the concrete from the treatment systems, haul off site the granulated activated carbon in the treatment vessels, and restore the treatment locations to their original condition.



**DISTRIBUTION OF TCE  
IN SHALLOW AQUIFER ZONE, MARCH 2005**  
Former Caterpillar Facility  
San Leandro, California

 MW-122 (adj)  
 MONITORING WELL SHOWING TCE CONCENTRATIONS IN GROUNDWATER ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ), MARCH 2005  
 EX-3 EXTRACTION WELL  
 P-4 PIEZOMETER  
 FORMER CATERPILLAR FACILITY  
 TCE CONCENTRATION CONTOUR IN  $\mu\text{g/L}$

## SITE MAP



- Airborne dust monitoring will be conducted during demolition activities.
- One new monitoring well will be installed on Martin Street south of Reynolds Street.
- HRC and BDI bacteria will be injected along Hutchings Drive.
- Groundwater monitoring will be conducted semi-annually.

### **California Environmental Quality Act – Notice of Exemption:**

DTSC has prepared a Draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. The Draft NOE states that the project will not have potential significant effects on human health and the environment because of the controls in place during the remediation of the groundwater.

### **Next Steps:**

After the close of the public comment period, DTSC will consider and respond to all comments received on the Draft RAP Amendment before making a final decision. A Response to Comment document will be prepared and placed in the Information Repositories. Anyone who submits comments regarding the Draft RAP Amendment will receive a copy of DTSC's Response to Comments.

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For questions regarding the cleanup:  
DTSC Project Manager  
Jayantha Randeni, (510) 540-3806  
E-mail: [jrandeni@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jrandeni@dtsc.ca.gov)

For questions regarding public participation:  
DTSC Public Participation Specialist  
Richard Parry, (510) 540-3910  
E-mail: [rperry@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:rperry@dtsc.ca.gov)

For media questions:  
DTSC Public Information Officer  
Angela Blanchette, (510) 540-3732  
E-mail: [ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:ablanche@dtsc.ca.gov)

#### **ANUNCIO**

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de esta información, favor de llamar a Jacinto Soto de el Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (510) 540-3842.

#### **INFORMATION REPOSITORIES**

The Draft RAP Amendment and other project documents are available for review at:

San Leandro Community Library  
Reference Desk  
300 Estudillo Avenue  
San Leandro, CA 94577  
(510) 577-3490

DTSC File Room  
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 215  
Berkeley, CA 94710  
(510) 540-3800  
(Call for an appointment)

#### **NOTICE TO HEARING IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS**

TDD users can obtain information about the site by using the California State Relay Service (888) 877-5378. Please ask to speak to Richard Perry, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (510) 540-3910.